

The A. F. of L. Ready Here to Offer Assistance to Higher Wage Workers in the "Little Steel" Fight  
Representatives of the American Federation of Labor are ready to offer assistance to higher wage workers in the "Little Steel" fight. The A. F. of L. is ready to offer assistance to higher wage workers in the "Little Steel" fight.

WHOLE NO. 1709

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1943

GEORGE HEALY, Secretary-Treasurer

WE PLEDGE  
A MILLION DOLLARS  
TO THE  
FOR VICTORY

VOL. 3, NO. 45

## FACING THE FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

Ever since last Spring the American Federation of Labor and the CIO have played the cards in the inflation drive at great sacrifice to themselves and to the workers they represent.

For seven months these labor organizations have refused to give aid or encouragement to demands for higher wages beyond the "Little Steel" formula. They have refused to support the "Little Steel" formula. They have refused to support the "Little Steel" formula.

Labor's policy was not entirely unselfish. Its leaders realized that the war would hurt workers more than anyone else. They were willing to make sacrifices in order to hold the line against further inflation.

Labor's leaders had faith in the President's promises. They had faith in Congress which had adopted the Economic Stabilization Act, providing that prices and profits be stabilized at the Sept. 15, 1942, level.

The plan was to institute a two-billion-dollar subsidy program which would facilitate greater output of food and necessary civilian supplies, yet permit prices to be held below the war level.

Now what has happened? First Congress repudiated the subsidy program. It killed the program and restored a partial and ineffective subsidy plan only after a Presidential veto. Then Congress in repudiation of the plan passed the war price control act.

The only conclusion is that the nation's leaders are in a state of confusion. The only course labor can take is to seek revision of the formula for adjusting wages.

This formula at present takes into account only the 15 per cent increase in the cost of living which took place between Jan. 1, 1941, and May, 1942. However, in the eighteen months since May, 1942, the cost of living has increased at least another 10 per cent.

That loss must now be made up to the nation's workers. Let it be not that they seek wages which will enable them to maintain their standard of living, but that they seek wages which will enable them to maintain their standard of living.

The need for a sound Government wage policy which will be fair and just to all the nation's workers is sharply illustrated by the Government's present program. The War Labor Board, for instance, laid down a rule that it will not consider a case while a war price control is in effect.

On the other hand, the War Labor Board, in negotiating with the United Mine Workers, ordered from the miners a 10 per cent wage increase.

At the same time, the Secretary of the Interior negotiated, and the War Labor Board approved, a pay increase of approximately \$10 a week for the coal miners.

These are paradoxes which the workers of the country cannot understand. No one can.

Perhaps a special committee of the War Labor Board appointed by the President to make a realistic determination of the extent to which the cost of living has increased may be able to point the way to a solution of the wage-price dilemma.

If this committee finds that the cost of living has advanced appreciably since May, 1942, then there can be no further delay. There must be a new wage policy which will take into account the increase in the cost of living.

## Moscow Pact, Russian War Gains, Hailed by Green As Blows To Hitler

New York City, A. F. of L. President William Green hailed the Russian-German ceasefire as a "blow to Hitler" and a "victory for the Russian people." He said that the ceasefire was a "blow to Hitler" and a "victory for the Russian people."

Addressing a mass meeting under the auspices of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, Green said that the ceasefire was a "blow to Hitler" and a "victory for the Russian people."

"We of American labor are proud of the fact that the Russian people have helped to crush the Nazi beast," Green said. "We are proud of the fact that the Russian people have helped to crush the Nazi beast."

"We do not pretend to stop here. The workers of our country, who have helped to crush the Nazi beast, will continue to help the Russian people." Green said.

"Let us announce here unequivocally that the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations support the Russian people in their fight against the Nazi beast." Green said.

"We cannot adequately express our admiration for their courage and determination to crush the Nazi beast." Green said.

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## Rail Unions Reject New Pay Award; Charge It Was Dictated by Mason

Washington, D. C.—The fifteen-member railroad unions promptly rejected recommendations of a second Presidential salary emergency board that the hourly wages of their 1,100,000 members be increased from \$1.10 to \$1.20 an hour.

The unions insisted that the ruling of the original Presidential board for \$1.10 an hour was approved and down the line the new ruling was not to be applied.

The unions also charged that the new ruling was dictated by the American Railway Union, which is the only union in the industry.

Edward E. Miller, president of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, offered figures on rates of pay for the industry. He said that the industry was paying \$1.10 an hour for its workers, while the railroad was paying \$1.20 an hour.

The unions also charged that the new ruling was dictated by the American Railway Union, which is the only union in the industry.

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## Against Compulsory Labor

### Voluntary Program for Manpower

Washington, D. C.—Major recommendations of the Joint Labor-Management Policy Committee for a constructive and voluntary manpower program follow:

1. The War Manpower Commission has had widespread and varied experience with locally developed manpower programs under decentralized administration, and with controls of one form or another in various critical situations. In the opinion of the Committee, out of these experiences has emerged a practical approach that is basic to the solution of any critical manpower problem whether it be local or national in character.

2. The elements of this approach constitute a basic outline of the program. The Committee believes should be used to solve the war manpower needs. These elements are:

1. The facts as to manpower needs and available supply must be determined. The War Manpower Commission must make these determinations in close cooperation with management of any given area.

2. The relative urgency for products and services must be determined in each local area by the agencies of government responsible for procurement and production. Such determinations must be made as close to the source as possible by local representatives of these agencies acting together in cooperation with the local experience of the War Manpower Commission.

3. The relative needs of employers for workers must be determined in each area. Such determinations must be made by local representatives of the War Manpower Commission in close cooperation with local representatives of government and management.

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## Offer Nation Voluntary Plan To Provide Manpower For All Needs

Washington, D. C.—America's labor, business and agriculture face a devastating job shortage against industry and agriculture. The Government is offering a voluntary plan to provide manpower for all needs.

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## AFL Survey Hits 'Soak The Poor' Taxes, Demands New Social Security Levies

Washington, D. C.—A. F. of L. leaders and charts in the current labor of labor. Monthly Survey graphically illustrates the "soak the poor" taxes.

The survey shows that the "soak the poor" taxes are a major burden on the working class. It shows that the "soak the poor" taxes are a major burden on the working class.

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## Probe of Living Costs in High Prices Begins by Group Named by Roosevelt

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt has named a five-man committee to probe the living costs in high prices. The committee will be headed by the Secretary of the War Labor Board.

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